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August 4, 2021

To: Louisiana Board of Ethics

RE: Advisory Opinion

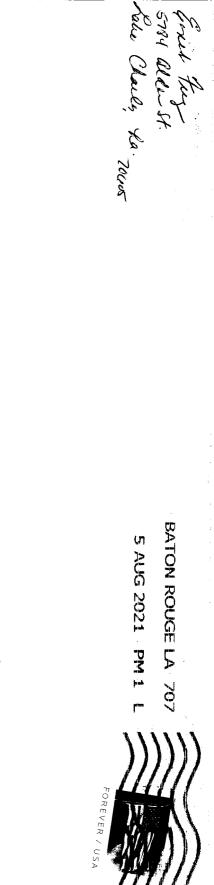
Dear Members of the Louisiana Board of Ethics,

I am currently employed with the Calcasieu Parish School System as a school psychologist/social worker. I am requesting an advisory opinion regarding a proposed autism spectrum assessment practice. The practice would be owned by me, a social worker, and two speech/language pathologists who are also current employees of Calcasieu Parish Schools in the department of Pupil Appraisal. As employees, we conduct multidisciplinary evaluations for children enrolled in the school system (i.e., autism evaluations comprise only a small portion of our job duties and assessments). The practice being proposed would provide autism spectrum assessments to children NOT enrolled in Calcasieu Parish Schools and would take place after the workday has ended for us (i.e., 4:30 p.m.). The program would be under the clinical direction of a psychiatrist. Please provide an opinion as to whether this would create an ethical violation.

Thanks in Advance for Your Consideration,

Ernest Fruge, M.A., LMSW, C-SSWS

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